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From Thursday December 6. to Saturday December 8. 1711.

Westminster, Decemb. 8.

YEsterday the Parliament met, pursuant to their last Prorogation; and the Queen being come to the House of Peers, and seated on the Throne in Her Royal Robes, a Message was sent to the Commons, by Sir William Oldes, Knight, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, requiring their Attendance in the House of Peers; whither they came accordingly; and Her Majesty was pleas'd to make the following most Gracious Speech to both Houses.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I Have Called you together as soon as the Publick Affairs would permit, and I am glad that I can now tell you, that notwithstanding the Arts of those who delight in War, both Place and Time are appointed for Opening the Treaty of a General Peace.

Our Allies (especially the States General) whose Interest I look upon as inseparable from My own, have by Their ready Concurrence expressed Their entire Confidence in Me, and I have no reason to doubt but that My own Subjects are assured of My particular Care of Them.

My Chief Concern is, That the Protestant Religion, and the Laws and Liberties of these Nations may be continued to you by Securing the Succession to the Crown as it is Limited by Parliament to the House of Hanover.

I shall Endeavour that after a War which has cost so much Blood and Treasure, you may find your Interest in Trade and Commerce Improved and Enlarged by a Peace, with all other Advantages which a Tender and Affectionate Sovereign can procure for a Dutiful and Loyal People.

The Princes and States which have been Engaged with Us in this War, being by Treaties entitled to have their several Interests Secured at a Peace, I will not only do My utmost to procure every one of them all reasonable Satisfaction, but I shall also Unite with them in the Strictest Engagements for Continuing the Alliance, in order to render the General Peace Secure and Lasting.

The best way to have this Treaty effectual, will be to make early Provision for the Campagne, therefore I must ask of you, Gentlemen of the House of Commons, *the necessary Supplies for the next Years War; and I do most earnestly recommend to you to make such Dispatch therein, as may Convince Our Enemies, that if We cannot obtain a good Peace, We are prepared to carry on the War with Vigour.*

Whatever you give will be still in your own Power to apply; and I doubt not but in a little time after the Opening of the Treaty, We shall be able to Judge of its Event.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

As I have had your Cheerful Assistance for the Carrying on this long and chargeable War, so I assure Myself, that no true Protestant or good Subject will envy Britain *or Me, the Glory and Satisfaction of Ending the same by a Just and Honorable Peace for Us and all Our Allies.*

Such a Peace will give new Life to Our Foreign Trade; and I shall do My utmost to Improve that happy Opportunity to Encourage Our Home-Manufactures, which will tend to the Easing of My Subjects in that Excessive Charge they now lie under in Maintaining the Poor, and to correct and redress such Abuses as may have crept into any part of the Administration during so long a War.

I cannot Conclude without earnestly recommending to you all, Unanimity, and that you will carefully avoid every thing which may give Occasion to the Enemy to think Us a People divided amongst Our selves, and Consequently prevent Our Obtaining that Good Peace, of which we have such reasonable Hopes and so near a View.

I pray God Direct your Consultations to this end, that being delivered from the Hardships of War, you may become a Happy and a Flourishing People.

Venice, Novemb. 21. *N. S.* The Senate having receiv'd Advice, That his Imperial Majesty would pass through the Territories belonging to this State, in his way to Inspruck, appointed the Signiors Aluise Pisani and Andrea Lezze, to Compliment him upon his Promotion to the Imperial Dignity, in order to which they went to Verona the Fourteenth, with a splendid Retinue: His Majesty being arriv'd that Day upon the Frontiers, was met by the said Ambassadors, and invited to refresh himself at Ussalengo, to which Place he came that Evening, and gave them Audience; at which he assur'd 'em of his Intentions of maintaining the same good Correspondence with their Masters, which his Predecessors had done, and presented 'em with his Picture set with Diamonds. The next Morning his Imperial Majesty continu'd his Journey, and was attended by the Ambassadors to the Confines of the Venetian Territories, where they took their Leave of him. Last Week they return'd hither, and have since given an account of the Execution of their Commission to the Senate. Signior Girolamo Dolfino, who has born several considerable Offices in the State, is elected Proveditor-General by Sea, in the room of Signior Agastino Sagredo, he having been rendered incapable of that Employment, through the ill condition of his Health. Prince Lubomirski, who has been at Milan to Compliment the Emperor on the part of the King and Republick of Poland, is arriv'd here, as is likewise Prince Hercolani, the Emperors Ambassadour to this Republick. Prince James Sobieski, is gone from hence to the Court of Vienna, by the way of Carinthia, and the Princess de Santo Buono, lately made Lady of the Bedchamber to the Dutchess of Anjou, is preparing to set out for Spain. Our Letters from Dalmatia say, that the Montenegrins were still in Rebellion against the Port, that a Body of Troops are marching under the Command of